Application No. 10/519,639 Paper Dated: July 12, 2010

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of March 10, 2010

Attorney Docket No. 0470-048036

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

- 1-12. (Cancelled).
- 13. (Currently Amended) A TEMPO-free process of cleaning a polymer membrane filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues containing water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with a solution containing an oxidising agent, by back flushing, said oxidizing agent being a peroxide compound and being used in the presence of a transition metal, metal selected from manganese and iron, by back-flushing, wherein said peroxide is used at a concentration within the range from 200 to 5000 ppm

wherein the back-flush is performed at a rate of 0.5-100-liters of the solution per h per m²-of filter surface.

- 14-15. (Cancelled).
- 16. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 13, wherein the transition metal is complexed with a polyamine.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 13, wherein the oxidizing agent peroxide is hydrogen peroxide.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 13, wherein the oxidizing agent peroxide is a peracid.

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19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) A TEMPO-free process of cleaning a polymer membrane filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues containing water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with a solution containing a hypohalous acid by back-flushing, wherein said hypohalous acid is used at a concentration within the range from 200 to 5000 ppm

wherein the back-flush is performed at a rate of 0.5-100 liters of the solution per h per m² of filter surface.

- 21. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with an alkaline solution prior to said contacting with said solution containing a hypohalous acid.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 21, wherein the alkaline solution has a pH between 11 and 14.
- 23. (New) The process according to claim 13, wherein said peroxide is used at a concentration within the range from 200 to 2000 ppm.
- 24. (New) The process according to claim 13, wherein said transition metal is used at a concentration within the range from 1 to 50 ppm.
- 25. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein said hypohalous acid is used at a concentration within the range from 200 to 2000 ppm.
- 26. (New) The process according to claim 13, wherein the back-flush is performed at a rate of 0.5-100 liters of the solution per h per m² of filter surface.

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27. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the back-flush is performed at a rate of 0.5-100 liters of the solution per h per m² of filter surface.